

House Bill 413 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Amerson of the 9<sup>th</sup> and Reece of the 27<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To authorize the Probate Court of Lumpkin County to charge a technology fee for each criminal fine imposed; to specify the uses to which said technology fees may be put; to provide for review and reports; to provide for adjustment of such fee; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

(a) The clerk of the Probate Court of Lumpkin County shall be entitled to charge and collect a technology fee to be set by the probate court in the amount of \$8.00 as a surcharge to each fine paid in a criminal or traffic case before the probate court. Technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide for the technological needs of the probate court. Such uses shall include only the following:

(1) Computer hardware and software purchases;

(2) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware; and

(3) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of imaging, scanning, facsimile, communications, projection, and printing equipment and software.

(b) The funds collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated fund by the clerk of the probate court and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this section at the direction of the judge of the probate court.

(c) The clerk shall collaborate with the finance director of Lumpkin County to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.

(d) At the end of each calendar year, the finance director shall provide a detailed report of all income and expenditures of the fund to the probate judge and to the governing authority of Lumpkin County.

(e) Beginning July 1, 2007, and every two years thereafter, the finance director shall review the fund history and any excess sums not expended or earmarked for the purposes specified in this Act shall be paid into the general fund of the county.

(f) On July 1, 2006, the finance director and the judge of the probate court shall review the fund history and the probate judge shall be authorized, with the advice and consent of the governing authority of Lumpkin County, to set the technology fee at an even dollar figure less than \$8.00 by an order filed with the clerk of the probate court.

**SECTION 2.**

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2005.

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.